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2020

Guide to the Bridgewater Normal School World War I Student Collection, 1914-1919

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Bridgewater Normal School World War I Student Collection, 1914-1919

(MSS-037)

*Finding Aid Compiled by
Orson Kingsley, January 2020*

Last Updated: January 17, 2020

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BNS WWI Collection Biographical Sketch

Ames, Edward Wesley (Army) – Ames was a 1909 Bridgewater graduate who attended high school in Easton, MA prior to enrolling at Bridgewater in 1905.

Burke, Walter Kenneth (Army) – Burke entered the Bridgewater program in September 1917 and left for the military in October 1918. He would return to Bridgewater in 1921 and graduate in 1922. He attended high school in New Bedford.

Carpenter, Clinton E. (Army) – Documentation has not been found to prove Carpenter ever attended Bridgewater.

Chamichian, Armenag H. – Chamichian graduated from Bridgewater in 1909 before going to Harvard for an additional degree. A native of Turkey, he would return there to be the principal of the newly opened Cilicia Normal Institute from 1912-1915, which he dubbed “the beginning of an educational revival in Cilicia (Armenia Minor).” On January 19, 1916, Chamichian died in a deportation camp in Mesopotamia, a victim of the Armenian Genocide.

Le Lacheur, Embert Alexander (Army) – Le Lacheur enrolled at Bridgewater in 1911 and graduated in June 1915. He attended high school in Boston. After the War he would go on to receive multiple more degrees at other institutions.

McCann, Francis James (Navy)– McCann graduated from Bridgewater in June 1916. He attended high school in Framingham, MA.

McDonough, Thomas Joseph (Navy) – McDonough began his studies at Bridgewater in 1915 and graduated from the three-year program in June 1918.

Sheehan, J.J. – Documentation has not been found to prove Sheehan ever attended Bridgewater. He references two other Bridgewater professors and Arthur C. Boyden’s wife in his letter.

Scope and Content Note

This small collection mostly consists of letters found in University Archives from past Bridgewater Normal School students while they were in the military during or right after World War I. Armenag H. Chamichian was not a member of the United States military but was a BNS graduate and was killed as a direct result of WWI.

Related collections include the [Robert E. Pellissier Collection](#).

Box and Folder List

Box 1 Folder

1. Letter from Edward W. Ames to Bridgewater Normal School Principal Arthur Clarke Boyden, July 28, 1918
2. Letter from Walter Kenneth Burke to A.C. Boyden, October 27, 1918
3. Letter from Armenag H. Chamichian to A.C. Boyden, March 21, 1914; Bridgewater Normal School 75th anniversary questionnaire filled out and sent back by Chamichian, 1915; write up by A.C. Boyden of the lives and deaths of Chamichian and Robert E. Pellissier, undated
4. Letter from Clinton E. Carpenter to A.C. Boyden, February 6, 1919
5. Letter from Embert A. Le Lacheur to William D. Jackson, October 27, 1918
6. Letter from Francis J. McCann to A.C. Boyden, July 31, 1918
7. Letter from Thomas J. McDonough to A.C. Boyden, August 26, 1918
8. Letter from J.J. Sheehan to A.C. Boyden, October 3, 1918